

if it takes the form of uniform allowances per child, "acts dysgenically because it is a stimulus to married people to have large families in inverse proportion to their income" (p. 382). Old age pensions if paid by the State are also held to be dysgenic. The solution of the difficulties connected with feminism is to be sought "in recognising the natural differentiation of the two sexes and in emphasising this differentiation in education" (p. 383). The above quotations are given as indicating some of the most decided of the authors' views; but it should be remembered that they are often accompanied by qualifying phrases here necessarily omitted. This section concludes with a plea for women teachers in schools being permitted to marry and retain their positions.

Space makes it necessary to close this review without noticing the two concluding chapters, on religion and eugenics, and eugenics and eugenics, although they contain much of interest. This book covers the whole field of practical eugenics better than any work known to me, and it constitutes a valuable addition to the literature of the subject. A mass of useful information is included, the full scope of which it has been impossible here to indicate. The value of this work depends in no small measure on the fact that the authors have confined themselves strictly within the true limits of eugenics, whilst clearly indicating the necessity of regarding every question dealt with from other points of view as well.

LEONARD DARWIN.

Kerr, J. GRAHAM. *Text-book of Embryology*. Vol. II. *Vertebrata with the exception of Mammalia*. Macmillan; 1919; price 3s. 6d.; pp. 591 + xii., with 254 illustrations.

THIS book contains a valuable summary of the known facts about the development of organs in the lower vertebrata. We say advisedly the development of "organs," for in his arrangement of matter Professor Kerr has followed the German plan of dealing with organs rather than with animals. If, for instance, we desire to obtain a complete view of the development of a fish, we have to consult a long series of chapters, in each one of which the development of some group of organs throughout the whole range of the lower vertebrata is dealt with. The state of our knowledge may render this procedure inevitable, but it deprives the book of its value for eugenists who are interested in the general principles of heredity. In the few chapters in which Professor Kerr deals with general principles, he betrays a point of view which may be termed somewhat antique—in a word, he views the facts rather from the standpoint of the structural morphologist of twenty years ago than from the modern standpoint of the growth of function as the originating and controlling factor in evolution.

E. W. MACBRIDE.

Colmore, GEORGE. *The Thunderbolt*. London: T. Fisher Unwin; 1919; price 7s. net; pp. 312.

A NOVEL which meanders through 250 pages to come to the point, then deals with the problem of marriage between a happily engaged couple one of whom has accidentally contracted syphilis during the engagement. The impossibility of the form of accidental infection suggested and the mistrust that might creep into the minds of the uninitiated of the clinics for treatment now established throughout the country are calculated to do more harm than good. No hint of a eugenic standpoint appears. In fact criticism is directed against the man for not pursuing the marriage.

Herbert, MRS. C. *Sex Lore: A Primer on Courtship, Marriage and Parenthood*. London: A. and C. Black and Co.; 1918; price 7s. 6d. net; pp. 144.

THIS interesting book covers a large range and deals with insect, animal and human reproduction and marriage customs. It will doubtless